

KENTUCKY TALKING BOOK LIBRARY NEWS, WINTER 2013

Audio Magazines and Catalogs Go Digital

Good news! Audio magazines and the *Talking Book Topics* catalog will soon be available on digital cartridges, just like your talking books. This transition will start with the January-February issue of *Talking Book Topics* (TBT). There may be a brief period in which you receive both cassette and digital versions, and it will take approximately six months before everyone gets switched to the digital format. Two important changes to remember: 1. All your magazines will come on one cartridge, 2. You must return the cartridge in order to continue receiving new issues. Digital magazines and catalogs will arrive in maroon containers, and the print TBT order booklet will be mailed separately. A list of NLS audio magazines appears in each issue of TBT—and don't forget you can download the TBT catalog and all magazines from BARD.

Bigger, Better BARD

An updated version of the Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) website was introduced in November 2012 with new features and content. Braille books and magazines, which previously could be downloaded from the NLS Web-Braille system, are now only available through BARD. Braille book files will not play on the NLS digital talking book player; users must have a refreshable Braille display or a purchased device that is able to play Braille files as text-to-speech. When searching BARD, audio books will be listed first (identified by DB numbers), followed by Braille books (identified by BR numbers). If you would like to see only audio or only Braille search results, you can go to the "Update account settings" page, find the "Display results" options, and select "Audio only" or "Braille only". You can also select whether to see BARD in color or in black and white.

You can now find more information about a book, or find related books, by clicking on the title/book number link at the top of each BARD entry. Other new BARD features include a wish list, a list of all the books you have downloaded, materials from the NLS music collection (in both Braille and audio formats), and locally-produced Braille items. More extensive information about the updates can be found on the new BARD Overview page: <https://nlsbard.loc.gov/NLS/NewBARDOverview.html>. If you have any questions about using BARD or need assistance in accessing your account, please contact KTBL at 1-800-372-2968 or (502) 564-8300 ext. 276. To register to use BARD for the first time, fill out the brief, online application at <http://nlsbard.loc.gov/>.

Stay Up-to-Date with Facebook and Twitter

KTBL recently joined Twitter—our handle is [@KyTBL](https://twitter.com/KyTBL). Follow us at www.twitter.com/kytbl for updates on the newest digital Kentucky books, important Talking Books updates, and other random fun stuff. Let us know what kind of info you'd like to see, and please be patient while we learn the ropes of tweeting!

You can also receive KTBL news by “liking” us on our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/KDLA.KTBL>. Our weekly posts feature descriptions of books, advertise outreach events, and include library news. We would like to include photos of you using Braille or talking books—please share them with us!

New Features on NFB Newsline® and Central Kentucky Radio Eye

NFB Newsline®, the free audible newspaper and magazine reading service from the National Federation of the Blind, has recently added some new features:

- Accuweather® emergency weather alerts--Users will automatically hear weather alerts for their county when they log into the Newsline® system by telephone or through the iPhone app.
- Central Kentucky Radio Eye content--Users can hear CKRE’s live broadcast when they call their local Newsline® number. Please note that you cannot hear CKRE through the toll-free number or through Newsline’s website at this time. CKRE is a radio reading service that broadcasts in the Lexington and Louisville areas to registered users with special radios, but anyone can stream CKRE’s broadcast from their website: <http://libguides.uky.edu/ckre>. Additionally, CKRE makes its broadcasts available on smart phones and tablets through the iBlink radio app and to cable subscribers in Fayette, Jessamine, and Franklin counties.
- My Newspaper--Newsline users can create their own custom newspaper that brings together favorite publications or sections of newspapers; content refreshes daily.

KTBL patrons can sign up for Newsline® by calling or e-mailing the library or by submitting an online application for NFB Newsline® at www.nfbnewslineonline.org/. For questions about how to use different features of Newsline®, existing subscribers can contact Independence Place in Lexington at 859-266-2807, 1-877-266-2807, or info@independenceplaceky.org.

Patrons who’d like to hear Central Kentucky Radio Eye’s broadcast using a special radio receiver can contact CKRE at 859-422-6390 or info@radioeye.org to receive an application for service. Special radio broadcasts can be heard in the following counties: Anderson, Bourbon, Boyle, Bullitt, Clark, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Jefferson, Jessamine, Madison, Meade, Mercer, Montgomery, Nelson, Oldham, Scott, Shelby, Spencer, Trimble, and Woodford.

Digital Talking Book Player Accessories

KTBL has several accessories for the NLS digital talking book player available to patrons who need them:

- Headphones--Stereo headphones that work with both the digital player and the older 4-track cassette player. Limited to patrons with hearing loss or those who live in group settings, such as a nursing home. Standard headphones and ear buds will work with the digital talking book player, so you may use a set you already own.
- Pillow speaker--Small speaker to be placed under a pillow so that only the reader can hear it. Limited to patrons who are confined to bed.

- Elbow adapter--An L-shaped adapter for use with USB flash drives playing BARD materials; it allows a flash drive inserted in the USB port on the side of the player to lie parallel with the player, rather than sticking straight out.
- Breath-Switch Adapter--Controls the play/stop function of the digital player. For use by patrons who have little or no manual dexterity to operate the NLS digital player. Requires a separate application and comes with an elbow adapter.
- Amplifier--For patrons with profound hearing loss. Requires a separate application filled out by a medical doctor. Comes with headphones.

To request one of these devices, please call KTBL at 1-800-372-2968 or (502) 564-8300 ext. 276.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

We would like to extend a big thank-you to everyone who donated to the Kentucky Talking Book Library in response to our last newsletter. We appreciate your gift, whether you gave \$1 or \$1000, because they added up to enough for us to buy a shipment of blank digital cartridges. This will in turn allow us to make more digital books available to you. In addition, we received a bequest from a patron who included us in her will. Her gift has allowed us to repair and update some of our recording equipment. Regretfully, space will not allow us to list the names of individual donors.

The Kentucky Talking Book Library's services depend on donations from patrons, their family and friends, and other interested parties. We use these funds for purchasing specialty items such as digital cartridges and mailing containers, mail card printers, and recording equipment, as well as Kentucky books to record, Braille paper, labels, and printing costs for outreach materials. Our service would be greatly reduced if we did not continue to receive your kind donations. Please keep it up and consider including KTBL in your estate planning.

To make a tax-deductible contribution to our library, please send a check or money-order to: Kentucky Talking Book Library, PO Box 537, Frankfort, KY 40602. You will receive a thank-you letter you can use for tax purposes.

2013 KTBL/State Government Holidays

March 29 – Half-day for Good Friday
 May 27 – Memorial Day
 July 4 – Independence Day
 September 2 – Labor Day

November 11 – Veteran's Day
 November 28-29 – Thanksgiving
 December 24-25 – Christmas
 December 31-January 1 – New Year's

Proofreading Volunteers Needed

Each year, the Kentucky Talking Book Library's volunteer recording program records about 40 Kentucky-related titles to supplement the national collection of Talking Books. We have many volunteers to record books, but not enough to keep up with proofreading them. Proofreading is the most important step of production—if the proofreader doesn't catch a mistake, it goes in the finished book! A proofreader listens to a recording while comparing it to the print book to ensure accuracy and quality. The ideal proofreader has good hearing and vision, has experience listening to audio books, has some basic computer skills, and is attentive to detail. Volunteers must be able to come to our recording studio in Frankfort at least 1 hour each week. KTBL will provide one-on-one orientation and training for each volunteer. If someone you know is interested, he/she may contact the library at ktbl.mail@ky.gov or 1-800-372-2968.

KTBL Contact Information

Kentucky Talking Book Library
PO Box 537
300 Coffee Tree Rd.
Frankfort, KY 40602
ktbl.mail@ky.gov

1-800-372-2968 (KY toll-free)
(502) 564-8300 ext. 276
Hours: 8:00-4:30 ET, Monday-Friday
Twitter: www.twitter.com/kytbl
Facebook: www.facebook.com/kdla.ktbl

**KENTUCKY TALKING BOOK LIBRARY
PO BOX 537
FRANKFORT KY 40602-0537**

**FREE MATTER FOR THE
BLIND AND PHYSICALLY
HANDICAPPED, DMM 703.5**

